United Nations

Press Release

Department of Public Information • News Coverage Service • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/804
11 January 1991

# FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

◆ Secretary-General, on his way to Baghdad, holds talks with President Mitterrand in Paris; EEC and Swiss Foreign Ministers, Non-Aligned Chairman in Geneva.

◆ Secretary-General, arriving in Amman, holds talks, over working dinner, with King Hussein, senior Jordanian officials.

◆ Elements involved in amendment of partial test-ban Treaty raised by speakers as Conference continues debate.

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A United Nations official said today that Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and his party were en route from Geneva to Baghdad via Amman, Jordan. The Secretary-General had arrived in Geneva, today, on his way to Baghdad, following a short stopover in Paris during which he met for half an hour with President François Mitterrand of France.

During the meeting, which took place at the Elysee Palace, President Mitterrand pledged the full support of France for the mission of the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General said he "enormously appreciated this support". They also discussed the situation in the Persian Gulf following the failure of the Geneva talks last Wednesday.

French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas accompanied the Secretary-General to the meeting and further discussions were held between them on the same topics.

The Secretary-General then flew to Geneva where he had brief talks on the Persian Gulf situation with the Foreign Minister of Switzerland, Rene Felber, at the airport. Later, for over an hour, he received pledges of support from the Foreign Ministers of the 12 States members of the European Economic Community (EEC). The meeting was presided over by Foreign Minister Jacques Poos of Luxembourg, current Chairman of the EEC, and the Secretary-General undertook to keep the 12 Governments informed of the results of his mission through Foreign Minister Poos.

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The Secretary-General then met with Foreign Minister Budimir Loncar of Yugoslavia in his capacity as Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement. The Foreign Minister again expressed to the Secretary-General full support of the non-aligned States for his mission.

The official told correspondents that at press conferences today in Paris and Geneva, the Secretary-General said he felt "encouraged and moved" by the support he had received from many Heads of State -- of the United States, the Soviet Union, Japan, France, the Nordic countries and the non-aligned countries. In his talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, he said he would be "the spokesman of the international community". The Secretary-General further stated that he considered it appropriate, in case of Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, for the United Nations to set up a peace-keeping mechanism of observation of such withdrawal. If the parties were to agree on the withdrawal, he would propose to the Security Council the participation of a United Nations peace-keeping operation.

Addressing journalists at the Palais des Nations also today, Foreign Minister Poos of Luxembourg announced that the 12 EEC Foreign Ministers had held an "exceptional meeting at Geneva under exceptional circumstances". They had given the Secretary-General the full support of the Community and its 350 million people.

Mr. Poos said there was no difference whatsoever between the Community and the Secretary-General regarding the framework provided by the resolutions adopted by the Security Council calling upon Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait and to comply fully with those resolutions. The EEC Ministers were ready, he said, to envisage the possibility of bringing in United Nations forces after such withdrawal.

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Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar arrived in Amman this evening, according to a spokesman, on his way to Baghdad. He had talks over dinner with King Hussein, Crown Prince Hassan and other senior Jordanian officials, including the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister. The working dinner lasted two hours. The Secretary-General is scheduled to leave Amman for Baghdad in the early afternoon tomorrow, 12 January.

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The role of nuclear testing in the qualitative spiralling of the arms race was stressed by speakers this morning as the two-week Conference to expand the partial test-ban Treaty into a comprehensive ban to include underground tests ended its first week of general debate.

Many speakers emphasized the link between a comprehensive nuclear-test ban and the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. It was asserted that the current state of technology now made possible the effective verification of such a comprehensive ban. It was also stated that such a ban would alleviate concerns about the environmental effects of continued testing.

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A comprehensive test ban would reduce the desire of near-nuclear States to "join the nuclear club", it was said. Stating that the major obstacles to such a ban -- limits to verification technology and basic East-West mistrust -- no longer existed, many speakers said the current international climate should make it possible to achieve a comprehensive ban as a first step towards a nuclear-free world.

Some speakers said the Conference should continue its work beyond the current session if necessary. It was also stated that work on the question should continue in the Conference on Disarmament, since it had the participation of the nuclear-weapon States. Some participants advocated a step-by-step approach to negotiating a comprehensive test ban as the most realistic approach. Several speakers called for channelling resources released from the pursuit of nuclear arms into addressing the problems of hunger, development and malnutrition.

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